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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
FOR THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN
THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS
DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION,
PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA
Second session
Geneva, 13-24 September 1993
Working Group I
Agenda item 3

ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA

Draft report of Working Group I

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: Mr. A. Ovchinnikov (Uzbekistan)

GE.93-62526

A. Organization of work

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 13 September 1993, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, in accordance with resolution 2/__, allocated item 3 of its agenda, entitled "Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa" to the working groups. Working Group I would be responsible for the elaboration of such provisions as the preamble, principles, objectives and commitments; including financial arrangements and capacity-building.

2. At the 1st meeting of Working Group I, on 14 September 1993, the Chairman made an introductory statement.

3. At the same meeting, the Working Group approved its programme of work for 14 to 24 September 1993. Subsequently it held ___ formal meetings and ___ informal meetings during that period.

4. Working Group I had before it for its consideration a note by the Secretariat entitled "Compilation of Government Views, Statements and Drafting Proposals" [A/AC.241/12] prepared on the basis of written submissions from Governments and taking into account statements made at the first substantive session of the INCD held in Nairobi from 24 May to 3 June 1993.

B. Discussion of topics

1. Preamble

5. Working Group I considered this topic at its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 14 September. Statements were made by the representatives of 36 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community.

6. At the 2nd meeting, the Chairman summarized the discussion on the topic.

2. Principles

7. Working Group I considered this topic at its 2nd and 3rd meetings, from 14 to 15 September. Statements were made by the representatives of 43 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community.

8. At the 3rd meeting, the Chairman summarized the discussion on the topic.

3. Objectives

9. The Working Group discussed this topic at its 3rd meeting, on 15 September. Statements were made by the representatives of 41 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community.

10. At the 3rd meeting, the Chairman summarized the discussion on the topic.

4. Structure and nature of commitments

11. Working Group I discussed this topic at its 3rd, 4th and 6th meetings, from 15 to 17 September. Statements were made by the representatives of 49 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, one on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States and one on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community.

12. A statement was also made by the representative of an intergovernmental organization.

13. At the 4th meeting, the Chairman summarized the discussion on the topic.

5. National action programmes

14. The Working Group considered this topic at its 5th and 6th meetings, from 16 to 17 September. Statements were made by the representatives of 52 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community.

15. A statement was made by the representative of a United Nations specialized agency. A statement was also made by the representative of a non-governmental organization on behalf of the community of non-governmental organizations.

16. At the 5th meeting, the Chairman summarized the discussion on the topic.

6. Sub-regional action programmes

17. Working Group I considered this topic at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 17 and 20 September. Statements were made by the representatives of 31 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community.

18. Statements were also made by the representatives of two non-governmental organizations.

19. At the 7th meeting, the Chairman summarized the discussion on the topic.

7. Capacity building

20. The Working Group considered this topic at its 7th and 8th meetings, from 20 to 21 September. Statements were made by the representatives of 40 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community.

21. A statement was made by the representative of a United Nations specialized agency. A statement was also made by the representative of a non-governmental organization on behalf of the community of non-governmental organizations.

22. At the 8th meeting, the Chairman summarized the discussion on the topic.

8. Education and public awareness

23. Working Group I discussed this topic at its 8th meeting, on 21 September. Statements were made by the representatives of 10 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community.

24. A statement was also made by the representative of a non-governmental organization on behalf of the community of non-governmental organizations.

25. At the 8th meeting, the Chairman summarized the discussion on the topic.

9. Financial resources and mechanisms

26. Working Group I discussed this topic at its 9th and __ meetings, on __ September. Statements were made by the representatives of __ States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community.

27. At the __ meeting, the Chairman summarized the discussion on the topic.

10. Coordination and cooperation

28. The Working Group considered this topic at its __ and __ meetings, on __ September. Statements were made by the representatives of __ States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community.

29. At the __ meeting, the Chairman summarized the discussion on the topic.

C. Adoption of report

30. At its __ meeting, on __ September, the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur, Mr. A. Ovchinnikov, introduced the draft report (A/AC.241/WG.I/L.1).

31. At the same meeting, the Working Group adopted the draft report [as amended].